

Remarks

In the Office Action mailed December 19, 2003, the Examiner rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as lacking antecedent basis, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,501,946 (Farah), and the Examiner rejected claim 19 as being obvious over a combination of Farah and U.S. Patent No. 5,943,620 (Boltz). Further, the Examiner allowed claims 2 and 4-18.

1. **Response to § 112 Rejection of Claim 3**

The Examiner rejected claim 3 as lacking antecedent basis for the language "the predetermined type of communication." Claim 3 was intended to depend from claim 2, rather than claim 1. Applicant has corrected claim 3 to depend from claim 2, thereby overcoming this antecedent basis rejection.

2. **Response to § 102 Rejection of Claims 1 and 3**

The Examiner next rejected claims 1 and 3 as being anticipated by Farah. Given that claim 3 now correctly depends from claim 2, which the Examiner allowed, the rejection of claim 3 is moot. Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 1, because Farah does not disclose or suggest the entirety of the invention as recited in the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131.

In particular, Farah fails to teach the claimed function of serving a plurality of mobile stations under a common MIN by a method comprising allowing MIN-based terminations to only one of the mobile stations at a time.

Farah discloses assigning extended MINs (EMINs) to multiple mobile stations, where all of the EMINs include a common MIN and each MIN includes a unique extension. The end result is that each of the mobile stations has a unique EMIN. According to Farah, a call termination to a given mobile station is directed to its unique EMIN, not to the common MIN.

(See, e.g., column 6, lines 25-58, where Farah describes receiving an extension from a caller so as to be able to terminate a call to a desired EMIN.)

Although Farah allows multiple mobile stations to share a common MIN, Farah does not preclude the multiple mobile stations from currently receiving calls. In fact, Farah teaches the direct opposite at column 3, lines 31-40, where Farah explains that all of the mobile stations operating under the common MIN can be ringed simultaneously, and that the mobile stations can thereby be joined into a conference call. Thus, Farah necessary fails to teach Applicant's claimed function of allowing MIN-based terminations to only one of the mobile stations at a time.

Finally, note that, if we equate EMIN with MIN, then the multiple mobile stations of Farah are not served under a common MIN, since the EMIN assigned to each mobile station is unique.

Because Farah fails to teach the invention as recited in of claim 1, Farah fails to anticipate claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

2. Response to § 103 Rejection of Claim 19

The Examiner next rejected claim 19 as being obvious over a combination of Farah and Boltz. Applicant traverses this rejection, because the combination of Farah and Boltz fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of claim 19. M.P.E.P. § 2143.

In particular, the combination of Farah and Boltz fails to teach the claimed function of facilitating operation of multiple mobile stations concurrently under a common MIN by a method comprising restricting registration of the mobile stations such that the common MIN is associated with at most one registered mobile station that is arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message.

Notice that claim 19 recites "restricting registration of the mobile stations such that the common MIN is associated with at most one registered mobile station *that is arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message.*" As explained in the specification as filed, one way that a device could be arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message is for the device to respond to a page message destined to its MIN, while conversely one way that a device could be arranged to not respond to a MIN-based termination message is for the device to ignore a part or all of a page message destined to its MIN. (See pages 9-10 of the specification.)

The combination of Farah and Boltz fails to teach having multiple mobile stations operate under a common MIN and limiting just one of them to be arranged to respond to MIN-based terminations.

At best, Boltz teaches that two mobile stations may have a common MSISDN number, which is analogous to a common MIN. However, Boltz does not teach that only one of those two mobile stations is arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message. (For sake of discussion, we can assume that termination messages in Boltz are MIN-based.) In fact, Boltz teaches that *both* the primary mobile station and the secondary mobile station are arranged to respond to MIN-based termination messages, i.e., that both can receive incoming calls. (See column 8, lines 22-49 of Boltz, where Boltz explains that if the primary mobile station is currently busy, an incoming call will be sent to the secondary mobile station instead.)

In Boltz, the question is just which mobile station the GMSC should route a given call to. The question is not whether a given mobile station is arranged to respond to a call attempt (a MIN-based termination message). Boltz thus fails to teach restricting registration of mobile stations such that a common MIN is associated with at most one registered mobile station that is

arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message. Further, Farah fails to make up for this deficiency of Boltz.

Because the combination of Farah and Boltz fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 19, Applicant submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claim 19 does not exist.

3. Conclusion

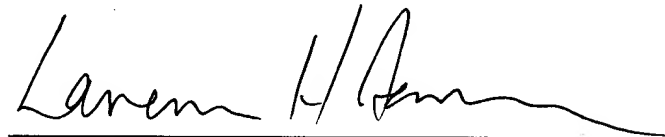
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 3, and 19 are in condition for allowance, and Applicant therefore respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of these claims.

Respectfully submitted,

**McDONNELL BOEHNEN
HULBERT & BERGHOFF**

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By: _____



Lawrence H. Aaronson
Reg. No. 35,818